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ADEN. 10 Dec.—Anglo-Persian Oil Dispute. The case concerning the tanker *Rose Mary*, whose cargo of oil was being claimed by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (see pp. 362, 402, 454) opened before the Supreme Court. The defendants were: Captain Jaffrate, former master of the *Rose Mary*; Signor Martinelli, representative of the Compania de Navegación Teresita of Panama City (the owners of the *Rose Mary*); and Count della Zonca, general manager of the E.P.I.M. company representing the Bubenbergh company of Spiez, Switzerland, charterers of the tanker. Sir Hartley Shawcross appeared for the A.I.O.C.

ADRIATIC TARIFF CONFERENCE. 10 Dec.—It was learned that an Adriatic tariff conference meeting in Linz had ended in failure and that Germany had withdrawn from all tariff agreements and in particular had cancelled from 1 January 1953 the agreement whereby German railway charges for shipments between Austria and Hamburg were 17 per cent higher than those on the Austria-Trieste route.

ALGERIA. 8 Dec.—Incidents, in which two policemen were attacked and injured, were reported from Oran. Several arrests were made.

Demonstrations took place in Algiers on the occasion of the funeral of the director-general of security.

ARGENTINA. 12 Dec.—Uruguay: Falkland Islands Dispute. The Government published the text of a Uruguayan Note dated 10 November and the Argentine reply to it. The Uruguayan Note repeated that the putting into force of the 1947 air convention with Britain and the appointment of a Uruguayan consular official at Port Stanley at no time had the significance attached to it by Argentina, and it recalled that Uruguay had consistently supported resolutions at inter-American conferences demanding full sovereignty over the Falkland Islands and refusing to recognize territorial acquisitions by force.

The Argentine Note accepted the explanation and admitted 'that Uruguay had no intention of ignoring Argentine rights or of supporting British usurpation'.

AUSTRALIA. 4 Dec.—Economic Situation. After a Cabinet review of the situation, Sir Arthur Fadden, Commonwealth Treasurer, reported that the Government's measures had led to a far healthier state of affairs. They had brought increased production, more stable costs and prices, and a new atmosphere of normality and confidence. The Government would be on their guard against any renewal of inflation and would maintain a flexible policy which could be adjusted to changing conditions. The main task was to build up exports so as to avoid restriction of imports.

AUSTRIA. 4 Dec.—Poland. It was announced that trade negotiations with Poland in Warsaw had been broken off. The principal cause of failure was understood to have been the high price asked for Polish coal.

12 Dec.—Great Britain. Austrian and British representatives signed

Vienna a cultural convention providing for the establishment of a mixed commission of six members to draw up plans to increase cultural intercourse between the two countries.

AUSTRIAN DEBT CONFERENCE. 8 Dec.—It was announced that the eleven-nation conference in Rome had ended after reaching in principle a general agreement on the question of Austria's pre-war foreign public debts. Recommendations were to be submitted to Governments and parties concerned.

BAHREIN. 11 Dec.—**Oil Agreement.** It was announced that, after long negotiation, the agreement between the ruler of Bahrein, Sheikh Sulman bin Hamad al-Khalifah, and the Bahrein Petroleum Company had been modified to allow a fifty-fifty profit sharing arrangement.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA. 6 Dec.—**Kenya.** Three Africans were sentenced to death for the murder of an African constable; another was sentenced to life imprisonment for attempted murder.

8 Dec.—**Home Guard.** It was announced that selected Kikuyu had been enrolled in the Home Guard in the Kiambu district.

9 Dec.—An Ismaili Moslem was murdered by Mau-Mau terrorists and his wife and children injured. Two other Mau-Mau murders were also reported. An African was fatally shot by police while escaping during a search for suspects.

The registration system was tightened to facilitate identification.

Nine Kikuyu chiefs in the Kiambu district announced their support for the recent anti-Mau-Mau broadcast of Mr Mathu, Kikuyu member of the Legislative Council.

10 Dec.—British White Paper (*see Great Britain*).

11 Dec.—Sir Evelyn Baring, the Governor, left by air for London.

12 Dec.—It was announced that Mau-Mau terrorists had killed two loyal Africans during the night and seriously wounded a third.

Mr Thuku, a loyal Kikuyu, broadcast a message to Africans condemning Mau-Mau.

13 Dec.—Four Africans condemned for Mau-Mau murders were hanged at Thomson's Falls.

14 Dec.—Three Africans were found murdered.

Mr Blundell, leader of the European elected members of the Legislative Council, complained to the press that the Kenya emergency had become a political issue in the House of Commons, and he also criticized the Governor's visit to London at such a critical time. He urged that stronger measures should be taken against Mau-Mau, that loyal Kikuyus should not be penalized in general measures, and that the emergency should not hinder long-term measures to improve African standards of life.

16 Dec.—The official gazette announced that provincial commissioners had been granted new emergency powers to seize land or buildings in the interest of public security and to ensure the maintenance of essential supplies and services.

British East Africa (continued)

Kenyatta Trial. The magistrate adjourned the trial until 30 December, on the ground that, in his opinion, Mr Pritt, Q.C. had been guilty of contempt of court in a cable sent to four M.P.s in London which had been published in the Kenya press. (Mr Pritt had complained of various inconveniences connected with the holding of the trial at Kapenguria and other matters which he said amounted to 'a denial of justice'). In the meanwhile the question of contempt was to be referred to the Supreme Court.

CENTRAL AFRICA. 8 Dec.—Capricorn Plan. The Capricorn Africa Society published in Salisbury a plan for the federation under the British Crown of the six British territories in East and Central Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

CHINA. 5 Dec.—Korea. A broadcast from Peking rejected the Indian proposals and accused the Indians of entering the Anglo-American camp 'while purporting to act as mediators'. The Soviet view expressed by Mr Vyshinsky was declared to be precisely the Chinese view, and Mr Krishna Menon's claim to speak for the Asian people was said to have only the support of the 'U.S. dominated bloc'.

Transmission of U.N. proposals (*see United Nations, General Assembly*).

14 Dec.—Korea. Mr Chou En-Lai sent a message to Mr Lester Pearson, president of the U.N. Assembly, formally rejecting the resolution based on the Indian proposals for settling the prisoner question. He asserted that it was nothing more than a 'revamped version of the twenty-one nation proposal' submitted to the political committee by Mr Acheson on 24 October and that it could not possibly 'provide a just and reasonable basis for an agreement'. The message recapitulated the Chinese position, declaring that the principle of no forcible repatriation was in reality the principle of forcible retention and therefore a violation of the Geneva Convention and of international law. It alleged that Syngman Rhee and Chiang Kai-shek agents had been inserted in the camps to terrorize prisoners, and it ended by demanding that the General Assembly rescind the resolution and call on the United States to resume negotiations at Panmunjom. Otherwise, it said, the Korean war would be continued and expanded with a consequent threat to peace throughout the world.

15 Dec.—Closure of British consulate at Tientsin (*see Great Britain*).

COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC CONFERENCE. 11 Dec.—A communiqué issued on the conclusion of the conference recorded the decision to adopt a more positive policy in seeking to promote the expansion of world production and trade, and stated that the following basic principles had been agreed upon: (a) internal economic policies designed to curb inflation should be pursued; (b) sound economic development should be encouraged with the object of increasing

productive strength and competitive power, providing employment, and raising living standards; (c) a multilateral trade and payment system should be extended over the widest possible area.

Restrictions. The conference considered that in spite of steady improvement in the balance of payments, both of individual countries and of the sterling area as a whole, no substantial relaxation of restrictions on imports from outside the area could as yet be warranted, but that restrictions on imports from within the area should be relaxed as the external financial position improved.

Development. It was agreed that the Commonwealth offered wide scope for expanding the production of essential supplies needed by the whole world—food and agricultural products, minerals and engineering products—and that development should be concentrated on projects contributing to an improvement of the external balance of payments. The conference also recognized the need for savings and investment to provide for improved living standards in certain countries of the area. The United Kingdom Government expressed its resolve to maintain and increase the flow of capital from London for sound development, and it undertook to make a special effort to provide additional capital for development in those Commonwealth countries helping to improve the sterling area's balance of payments, provided it was sure that the country in question was devoting an adequate part of its resources to improve the sterling area's balance and was ready to make a sufficient contribution to the scheme in question. The United Kingdom Government also undertook to discuss with the International Bank arrangements to make sterling available for lending by the Bank for projects designed to improve the sterling area's balance. The conference agreed to encourage by every possible means foreign, and especially United States, investment in the sterling area. The United Kingdom Government announced its decision to allow foreign investors in the sterling area to transfer across the exchanges not only, as at present, the sterling equivalent of the initial investment but also capital profits.

Commodity Policy. With the aim of achieving stability of prices for primary commodities the conference agreed to co-operate in considering, commodity by commodity, international schemes designed to ensure stability of demand and prices at an economic level.

Imperial Preference. The conference recognized the value of existing preferences, but rejected a United Kingdom proposal that Commonwealth countries should seek release from the G.A.T.T. 'no new preference' rule. It agreed, however, to co-operate with the United Kingdom in approaching the contracting parties to G.A.T.T. to meet difficulties arising on the U.K. tariff, with a view to securing the continuance of duty-free entry into the United Kingdom for Commonwealth goods notwithstanding any duties the United Kingdom might impose in the future.

International Plan. The conference agreed to seek the co-operation of other countries in a plan to create conditions for an expansion of world production and trade by international agreements designed to restore the balance in world economy on the lines of 'trade not aid' by

Commonwealth Economic Conference (*continued*)

the progressive creation of an effective multilateral trade and payments system over a wide area. The plan envisaged action by both creditor and debtor nations for the progressive removal of import restrictions imposed for the purpose of bringing a country's external balance into account. An integral part of the plan would be the restoration of sterling convertibility, but this would be dependent on (a) the continuing success of action by Commonwealth countries as already outlined; (b) the prospect that trading nations would adopt policies conducive to the expansion of world trade; and (c) the availability of adequate financial support through the International Monetary Fund or otherwise.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 4 Dec.—Prague Radio announced that frontier guards had killed, on the night of 5 November, three men, described as members of the Banderovci (Ukrainian partisans), who were trying to escape into the U.S. zone of Germany.

6 Dec.—**Israel.** The Government presented a Note to the Israeli Legation demanding the recall of Dr Kubovy, the Israeli Minister, who was accused of provocative behaviour and of 'continually intervening' to try and obtain emigration permits for Jews, many of whom were said to be 'enemies of the State'.

16 Dec.—**Communist Party Congress.** The tenth party congress opened in Prague.

Economic Situation. In a broadcast speech President Gottwald attributed almost the whole blame for the serious economic situation to the 'Slansky gang'. He emphasized that Israel and its Zionist ramifications were 'mainly ruled by American imperialists', but he denied that there was anti-Semitism in Czechoslovakia. He declared that production was lagging behind demand and that workers were undisciplined. Forty per cent of agricultural wheat requirements had to be met by Russia, and the output for milk and eggs was below that of 1937. The Government had decided to introduce a new agricultural system based on that of Russia. Political education and closer control of individuals were necessary in order to fulfil the last year of the five-year plan.

EGYPT. 4 Dec.—**Import Restrictions.** The Government announced that imports from the sterling area would be restricted to 'essentials', but that full imports would be allowed from countries having payments agreements with Egypt (west Germany, France and the French currency zone, the Italian currency zone, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia.) Imports would be subject to permits for payment in the currency of exporting countries. Goods from countries outside the dollar and sterling areas which had no payments agreement with Egypt could be imported only against full payment in Egyptian currency. Imports from the dollar area would also be payable in Egyptian currency.

5 Dec. Releases. Another thirty of those arrested in September were released, including Abdul Hadi, a former Prime Minister and

leader of the Saadist Party, Fuad Serag ed-Din, Minister of the Interior in the Wafd Government, and Elias Andraos and Karim Tabet, advisers to ex-King Farouk.

6 Dec.—A meeting took place between Gen. Nagib, Prime Minister, and Mustafa Nahas, the former Wafd leader.

8 Dec.—A Government spokesman announced that Gen. Nagib was stimulating the formation of a national *bloc* for the sake of internal unity and to support the Government in obtaining British evacuation from the Canal Zone.

Wafd Party. Mustapha Nahas announced his decision to withdraw his resignation from the Wafd leadership.

9 Dec.—Ministerial Changes. Mahmoud Fawzi, Ambassador to Britain, was appointed Foreign Minister in place of Ahmed Farrag Tayeh who was appointed Ambassador to India; and Dr Abbas Ammar took over the Ministry of National Direction from Fathy Radwan who was to continue as Minister of State. In addition, four Ministers resigned and five new appointments were made.

10 Dec.—Abolition of Constitution. Gen. Nagib announced in a broadcast the abolition of the 1923 constitution and the creation of a committee to draft a new one 'acceptable to the nation'.

11 Dec.—Syria. Col. Chichekli, the Syrian Chief of Staff and Deputy Prime Minister, arrived in Cairo for a five-day visit.

Sudan parties' request (*see Sudan*).

14 Dec.—In a speech at the Officers' Club in Cairo, Col. Chichekli emphasized the importance of Arab strength and unity.

16 Dec.—The Prime Minister called a meeting of Arab States' diplomatic representatives. Events in North Africa and the Palestine question were discussed.

Palestine: Protest to Britain. Gen. Nagib handed to the British Ambassador on behalf of the Arab League a Note protesting against the British vote in the U.N. *ad hoc* Political Committee in favour of the resolution calling for direct Israeli-Arab negotiations (*see U.N. Political Committee, 11 December*). The Note asserted that the British, French, and U.S. Governments had undertaken in March 1950 not to support the State of Israel and not to bring pressure on the Arab States to negotiate with Israel, and it objected to British support for a resolution which, it asserted, implied recognition by the Arab States of Israel as an established sovereign State.

17 Dec.—United States. Mr Radwan, acting Foreign Minister, received the U.S. Ambassador and informed him of the grave concern felt by the Arab Governments and people over events in Tunisia and Morocco.

FORMOSA. 7 Dec.—Chinese Nationalists executed nine Communist spies.

10 Dec.—It was learned that the British Government had asked the Chinese Nationalist authorities to make a full investigation into the attack by two armed vessels off Foochow on 1 December on the British freighter, *Rosita*, whose captain had been killed.

FRANCE. 4 Dec.—Finance Bill. The Prime Minister's motion of confidence on priority of discussion for the Finance Bill was carried by 314 votes to 207 (Communists and Socialists). Orthodox Gaullists abstained.

M. Pinay decided to drop from the Finance Bill the main provisions of fiscal reform which had been incorporated in it and which had aroused strong opposition from the right wing of his own following.

7 Dec.—Communist Party. The central committee decided to deprive MM. Marty and Tillon of any posts of leadership and of membership of the central committee. M. Marty's case was also submitted to his local cell.

M. Coirre, the former Gaullist president of the Paris municipal council who was expelled from the R.P.F. on 7 November, obtained nearly 4,500 votes more than the orthodox Gaullist candidate in a Paris by-election.

9 Dec.—M. Pinay won by 300 votes to 291 a second motion of confidence in favour of detailed discussion of the Finance Bill. Socialists, Communists, and Gaullists voted against the Government.

R.P.F. During the debate on the vote of confidence, M. Dethelm, leader of the Gaullist group in the Assembly announced that because of the seriousness of the situation 'we (the R.P.F.) are ready in the national interest to assume our responsibilities'. It was reported that M. Dethelm had earlier told a meeting of the Gaullist group that Gen. de Gaulle had decided to consider a policy of support for a suitable Government and participation in a Government coalition.

11 Dec.—Fiscal Reform. The Assembly rejected by 337 votes to 272 a clause of the Finance Bill enabling the Government to apply its main fiscal reform provisions by decree if Parliament had taken no action thereon by 1 June 1953. M. Pinay announced that he would table votes of confidence upon the relevant clause and upon the issue of family allowances.

12 Dec.—Finance Bill. The finance committee of the Assembly rejected by 29 votes to 7 the Government's proposals for the reconstruction budget on the ground that they were inadequate.

European Health Authority. M. Schuman, Foreign Minister and M. Ribeyre, Minister for Health, outlined to representatives of O.E.E.C. countries a French plan for a European health authority and urged the establishment of a European Health Pool on the lines of the Schuman Plan.

GERMANY. 4 Dec.—Berlin. Traffic Restrictions. East German police again held up motor traffic between the eastern and western sectors, impounding and searching vehicles and confiscating west and east marks. The three west Berlin commandants sent individual protests to Mr Dengin, the Soviet representative in Berlin.

West Germany. Bonn and Paris Treaties. The coalition parties decided, in agreement with the Government, to defer until January, the third reading of the Bill to ratify the treaties. In the interval the Constitutional Court would be asked by the Coalition to give a ruling on

whether the treaties could be approved by a simple majority of the *Bundestag*.

German Demands. The terms were published of a resolution, approved by the three coalition parties and the Federal Union, setting out certain demands which the Chancellor had agreed to submit 'in the name of the German people' to the other signatory Powers in the form of a Note after final ratification of the treaties. The resolution stated that the new order established by the treaties should be regarded as a transition stage pending the achievement of a 'free and reunited nation'. The existing frontier demarcations were not recognized by the German people, and it would be the policy of every German Government to seek the earliest revision of those provisions which could not be reconciled with true partnership. It also stated that though the German people would discharge its new obligations, it expected that no burdens should be demanded of it which would lower its standard of living. It awaited also the 'psychological prerequisites' of an effective military contribution, and it called on the Government to secure a treaty relationship between N.A.T.O. and the Federal Republic giving Germany rights corresponding to her contribution. It finally declared it to be the 'inalienable right' of every German Government to pursue an independent foreign policy.

The reports on the treaties of the budget committee and of the special committee examining the defence treaty were submitted to the *Bundestag*. The Social Democratic minority maintained that German defence costs had been underestimated, and it put the cost of raising the German contribution of twelve divisions at a minimum of 39,000 m. marks in the two years. It calculated that Germany would be called on to provide a third of the total E.D.C. budget.

Communists demonstrated in Bonn for a second day against the treaties.

5 Dec.—Speaking in the *Bundestag* debate on the treaties, Herr Ollenhauer, leader of the Opposition, maintained that the status which the treaties would establish had already been rendered out of date, and that pending a peace treaty Germany needed a status similar to that accorded to Italy and Japan. He contended that entry into the European Defence Community could only intensify Sovietization of the eastern zone and deepen the division of Germany and that it might commit them to a course ending in war. His party believed that European unity should be sought on an international level, especially with the United States and Canada, and it wanted new international negotiations for the establishment of a world system of collective security in which members of equal rank would co-operate.

In replying, Dr Adenauer reminded the *Bundestag* that the cases of Italy and Germany were different, and he asked if it thought the world had forgotten about the concentration camps. He defended a policy of strength in dealing with Russia, declaring: 'Moscow does not negotiate with weaklings; it gobbles them up'.

Berlin. The U.S. commandant addressed a second request to the Russians for information concerning an American officer who had dis-

Germany (continued)

appeared near the zonal border on 24 November and who had been reliably reported to have been arrested by east German police.

East Germany. Herr Ulbricht, secretary-general of the Socialist Unity Party, speaking in Berlin, warned farmers that resistance to collectivization would be punished by imprisonment and confiscation.

6 Dec.—West Germany. Bonn and Paris Treaties. The *Bundestag* completed, clause by clause, the second reading of the Bill to ratify the treaties. On the essential issue the average vote was 216 for the Government and 160 against.

Truman statement on treaties (*see United States*).

7 Dec.—East Germany. The Government information bureau issued a statement describing the British Foreign Office statement on east German rearmament (*see p. 712*) as a complete lie, designed to camouflage west German remilitarization.

8 Dec.—Berlin. Communist restrictions on inter-zonal traffic were reduced, cars being allowed to proceed in both directions after superficial examination.

Klein Machnow. Reports reaching Berlin from Klein Machnow outside the city revealed that forty political instructors had replaced the burgomaster and municipal Government and that a number of leading citizens had disappeared. Inhabitants had complained of not being allowed free passage to and from Berlin.

West Germany. Bonn and Paris Treaties: Coalition Petition. The text was published of the Coalition parties' petition to the Constitutional Court. It asked the Court to rule that the Social Democratic Party had violated the Basic Law in contesting the right of the *Bundestag* and of the majority to approve the Bonn and Paris treaties by a simple majority in accordance with article 42 (para. 2) of the Law. It also asked the Court to rule that the *Bundestag* was empowered to approve the treaties by a simple majority. It added that the *Bundestag* ought to know before the third reading whether the Bills were in conformity with the Basic Law, and declared that such a clarification would not be reached by the advisory opinion requested by the President nor by the suit which the Social Democratic Party proposed to open.

9 Dec.—Constitutional Crisis. The Constitutional Court met in Karlsruhe in full assembly to hear the President of the Republic's application for an advisory opinion as to whether he could assent to ratification of the treaties by a simple parliamentary majority without infringing the Basic Law. The President of the Court announced at the outset that though the Court's decision would not be binding on the President, it would bind the two Senates of the Court in reaching their decisions on the petitions of the Coalition and the Social Democratic Opposition. The Government representative at once declared that the nature of the proceedings had been fundamentally changed and requested an adjournment which was granted.

Dr Adenauer announced that the Court's decision was *ultra vires*. He summoned a special Cabinet meeting and also saw the President of the Republic.

East Germany: Food Shortage. Herr Grotewohl published an article in which he admitted a shortage of butter, fats, vegetables, and meat and announced the dismissal of Dr Hamann, the Minister for Commerce and Supply, and Herr Albrecht, his State Secretary. The reasons for the shortages were stated to be mainly: sabotage, breach of contracts by unnamed 'capitalist states', and the weather. The article said that reserves of butter and sugar had been drawn on and that the sale of butter in State shops had been prohibited. 'Brigades' headed by Ministers and senior officials were to be sent round the country to 'encourage' farmers to produce more milk for butter and more animals for slaughter.

10 Dec.—West Germany: Constitutional Crisis. President Heuss announced that he had withdrawn his request for an advisory opinion from the Constitutional Court. In a written statement he said that the advisory character of the opinion he sought ought not to, and could not, delimit in advance the freedom of a judicial decision of a Senate of the Court and that the Court's ruling seemed to be incompatible with the legal rights and safeguards to which a litigant was entitled.

The President denied in a broadcast that his withdrawal had been made in order to favour the Coalition parties. He declared that it had nothing to do with the merits of the controversy about the treaties, nor had it a political bearing. The Karlsruhe Court was one custodian of the constitution, and he was the other. The decision to withdraw the petition was necessary.

Berlin. Reports reaching Berlin stated that the purge carried out in Klein Machnow was to be extended along the whole of the border with west Berlin.

Dr Linse. Before his departure, Mr Donnelly, the U.S. Commandant, addressed a final appeal for the release of Dr Linse to the head of the Soviet Control Commission.

11 Dec.—West Germany: Constitutional Crisis. Herr Mellies, deputy leader of the Social Democratic Opposition, charged the Government in the *Bundestag* with having provoked a constitutional crisis in order to avert a Government crisis, with having flouted the authority of the Constitutional Court, and with having put pressure on President Heuss to withdraw his request for an advisory opinion. Dr Adenauer in reply said the Government was unanimous that the Court's ruling on 9 December was not in conformity either with its own statutes or with the Basic Law. He denied that pressure had been exerted on the President, and said that the Government's view had been conveyed to him without any suggestion of what action he should take. He declared it was wrong to speak of either a Government or a constitutional crisis.

12 Dec.—Herr Ollenhauer told the press that the Social Democratic Party would not accept the treaties even in a newly-elected *Bundestag* but would continue to press for new negotiations with the western Powers with the aim of securing full German sovereignty except in questions concerning Berlin, German unity, and allied troops in Germany.

Germany (continued)

13 Dec.—Constitutional Court's Statement. The Constitutional Court issued a statement giving the reasons for its decision that an advisory opinion given by the full assembly would be binding on the two Senates. It stated that an opinion of the Court was intrinsically as binding as a judgement though it had not the same formal legal force, and it pointed out that gaps existed in the Court's statutes which needed to be filled. Owing to the bicameral system it was necessary to prevent one Senate giving a ruling contrary to that of the other on a like issue. Whether a ruling was given by the full assembly or by either of the Senates was immaterial; the judgement was that of the Court as a whole, and according to para. 16, clause 1, of the Court's statutes it was binding. The Court also maintained that a petition directed to one of the Senates could not be interposed on a subject already under review.

The statement said that the Court had not the power to make political decisions: its duty was merely to clarify legal issues in order to facilitate political decisions by the legislative authorities. The question whether the treaties could be ratified without a prior change in the constitution was a point of law, and whoever declined to submit that point to legal judgement rejected the competence, not only of the Constitutional Court, but also of any other judicial scrutiny of parliamentary Acts. The alternative was that all legislation approved by a *Bundestag* majority would have to be regarded as binding irrespective of whether it was consonant with the Basic Law. The Court had welcomed the President's request for an opinion because it would have been given by the Court as a whole, and it had therefore been hoped to make 'manipulation of the competence of the Senates by rival parties' impossible.

16 Dec.—West Germany. Neo-Nazis. The neo-Nazi 'German bloc', led by Karl Meissner, staged a demonstration on the inter-zonal border near Lübeck which was broken up by west German police.

Bonn and Paris Treaties. A two-day extraordinary conference of the Christian Democratic Union ended with the unanimous approval of a resolution calling for the earliest possible ratification of the treaties and expressing full confidence in the Government's foreign policy. The resolution recorded deep anxiety that the Constitutional Court was becoming increasingly involved in political controversy and stated that the C.D.U. would do nothing to exacerbate a dispute which impaired the Court's authority. The resolution added that in the fateful issue before the nation it was only the Government and its majority which had a clear and convincing conception—that of union with the free world—and it declared that the Social Democratic Opposition had nothing but negative criticism to offer, that the wrecking of the treaties would create a vacuum, and that it was a shallow illusion for the Social Democrats to think that that vacuum could be filled by 'an international community of free and equal nations'.

Berlin. A U.S. statement was published which said that during recent months movement between the Soviet zone and the western sectors of Berlin had been drastically cut down, only five roads for wheeled traffic remaining open.

17 Dec.—West Germany. Dr Adenauer declared in a broadcast that he was determined to secure ratification of the treaties as soon as possible and he had no intention of advancing the date of the general election to seek a mandate from the people. He said he had recently made a proposal for the creation of a European Council of Prime Ministers to hasten the political unification of Europe and to establish the precedent of an international political authority taking precedence over national Governments.

East Germany. The People's Chamber elected Herr Homann as a Vice-President in place of Gen. Müller who had 'taken over a new task' (the building of armed forces). The Chamber passed the economic plan for 1953 which called for production increases and for an additional 100,000 employees in industry.

GREAT BRITAIN. 4 Dec.—Defence. Mr Churchill, Prime Minister, announced in the Commons the Government's decision to curtail expenditure on defence production so as to prevent any substantial rise above the current year's expenditure. He said this would involve the cancellation or modification of some contracts, but so far as possible reductions would be effected by spreading deliveries over a longer period. The production of aircraft types would be somewhat reduced, but the introduction of the most modern types would be continued. He said the decision implied no weakening in the Government's resolve to fulfil all its defence obligations, including its share in the N.A.T.O. common effort.

Censure Motion. A Labour censure motion condemning the Government's conduct of business was defeated by 24 votes.

Cabinet Meeting. The six visiting Commonwealth Prime Ministers and the Finance Ministers of India and South Africa attended a meeting of the Cabinet.

Malaya. Gen. Templer, High Commissioner in Malaya, who was on a visit to Britain, told a press conference that the Communists' decision to reduce their terrorist activities and concentrate more on subversion had been forced on them by improved security measures and because their terrorist activities were turning the masses against them. He said that growing confidence among the people had led to more information coming in, and he attributed much importance to the growing number of surrenders. He said psychological warfare was being intensified and the reorganization of the police was under way. It was hoped to train 240,000 men in the Home Guard to free the police for normal duties. The first company of the Federation Regiment was in training. Gen. Templer revealed that 81 per cent of applicants for recruitment had been Malays, and he expressed disappointment at such an unbalanced racial response. He reported a substantial reduction in the number of those detained under emergency regulations, explaining that a more liberal policy had been adopted, involving certain calculated risks. Gen. Templer emphasized the importance of the resettlement programme and mentioned various Government schemes for the social and economic betterment of the people, including courses in civics,

Great Britain (continued)

elections to local councils, adult education, and new land policies giving security of tenure. Referring to the new citizenship laws, he said they had been generally accepted by the Malays, and the Chinese and Indian leaders were urging their followers to acquire citizenship.

8 Dec.—Persian Oil.—Mr Eden, Foreign Secretary, reaffirmed in the Commons that the British Government would stand by their obligations to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

10 Dec.—Kenya. The Government published as a White Paper (Colonial No. 290) a dispatch dated April 1951 from the then Governor of Kenya, Sir Philip Mitchell, to the Colonial Secretary, setting out in detail the need for a Royal Commission to examine the social and economic problems of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika.

British Protectorates in South Africa. Reports outlining negotiations between the United Kingdom and South African Governments on the transfer to the Union of Bechuanaland, Basutoland, and Swaziland were published simultaneously in South Africa and Britain (Cmd. 8707).

11 Dec.—Commonwealth Economic Conference—q.v.

Commonwealth Development Company. It was announced that a group of important financial, industrial, and commercial concerns in the United Kingdom had decided to form a company to further development in Commonwealth countries and colonial territories.

12 Dec.—Queen's Title. It was announced that delegates to the Commonwealth Economic Conference had agreed that each member of the Commonwealth should use a different form of royal title which would have as a common element the description of the Sovereign as 'Queen of her other realms and territories and head of the Commonwealth'.

Anglo-Austrian cultural convention (*see Austria*).

14 Dec.—Pacific Defence. It was announced that the Prime Ministers of Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom had discussed the situation in the Pacific and south-east Asia and had reached complete understanding on certain fundamental propositions which would in due course be communicated to the United States.

15 Dec.—China. The Foreign Office announced the decision to close the British consulate-general at Tientsin.

U.S. Offshore Purchases. An Anglo-U.S. contract worth nearly \$90 m. was signed under the U.S. military aid programme for the production by Britain of Centurion tanks for delivery to the Netherlands and Denmark.

16 Dec.—Kenya. The Commons debated an Opposition motion expressing concern regarding the imposition of collective punishment in Kenya; regretting the delay in appointing a Royal Commission; urging the Commission to investigate forthwith fundamental long-term problems and to produce an interim report; demanding that the Government should meanwhile take certain measures to mitigate African hardships, including the progressive elimination of the colour bar, co-operative farming, wage increases, reduction of the cost of

living, extension of free education, the creation of new industries, and the democratization of local government; welcoming suggestions for a round-table conference in Kenya of representatives of all communities. The motion was defeated and a Government amendment approved by 301 votes to 278.

During the debate Mr Lyttelton reminded the House that only about a quarter of Kenya's total territory had been affected by the troubles, and he gave an assurance that the Government would push on with long-term measures in the unaffected areas. He said he abhorred the necessity for collective punishment, and declared that it should only be imposed as a last resort and in a small area where a crime had been committed and witnesses would not come forward. It was often the most merciful measure open to the Government, and it had saved many innocent persons from being murdered.

Mr Lyttelton announced further appointments to the Royal Commission and said he would leave it to the discretion of the Commission whether or not to publish an interim report. He said he was not a believer in the colour bar, but its removal was no easier for the present Government than it had been for their predecessors. Co-operative farming was being introduced in every peaceful area of Kenya, and the raising of wages was one of the Government's objectives. Progress in every sphere would be pushed on as fast as circumstances allowed.

Mr Lyttelton accused the Opposition of breaking down the unity in colonial affairs which had been fostered by the Conservatives and of seeking political advantage from the current dangers.

Arab League protest *re* British vote on Palestine question (*see Egypt*).

17 Dec.—Anglo-Icelandic Fishery Dispute. Mr Nutting, Joint Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated in a written parliamentary reply that Mr Eden had suggested to the Icelandic Minister on 10 December that the dispute should be referred to the Permanent Commission to be set up under the 1946 Over-Fishing Convention. The Minister had however rejected the proposal.

GREECE. 6 Dec.—Economic Programme. In a broadcast on the Government's economic programme, M. Markezinis, Minister for Economic Co-operation, announced the Government's resolve to reduce the number of civil servants and to maintain monetary and economic stability. He said currency circulation would not be increased, but anti-inflationary measures would not be such as to stifle domestic economy. To eliminate the budget deficit, economies would be made in non-productive expenditure and the taxation system would be improved. Foreign loans and private capital investments would be sought in order to make up for the reduction in U.S. aid, and measures would be taken to safeguard foreign capital. To improve the trade position, imports would be stream-lined and production costs lowered so as to encourage exports.

17 Dec.—Foreign Policy. Field-Marshal Papagos, Prime Minister, said in Parliament that close co-operation with the western Powers would be 'the pivot of Greek foreign policy'. He expressed great satis-

Greece (continued)

faction with relations with Turkey, Yugoslavia, and Italy, and said the Government was resolved to strengthen the bonds which guaranteed security in the Balkans and eastern Mediterranean. Referring to Albania, he repudiated the use of force to settle the North Epirus issue, and declared that the Government desired a free, independent, and democratic Albania. He promised to strengthen relations with Egypt and other Middle Eastern countries, and said that the question of Cyprus would be dealt with 'within the framework of present realities'. He reminded the United States that the Greek contribution to the defence of common ideals was dependent on the extent of U.S. economic aid.

HUNGARY. 16 Dec.—Armed Forces. Mr Rakosi, Prime Minister, announced to Parliament that the military potential was to be increased. He was presenting the budget which estimated an increase of about 18 per cent in expenditure.

INDIA. 8 Dec.—Five-year Plan. Mr Nehru, Prime Minister, presented to both Houses of Parliament the final report of the planning commission on the five-year plan. The plan's total cost was estimated at 20,690 m. rupees (£1,550 m.) of which 17.4 per cent was to be spent on agricultural and community developments, over 27 per cent on irrigation and power projects, and 24 per cent on transport and communications. Approximately £256 m. would be spent on social services. The plan was expected to increase the national income by 11 per cent by 1955-6.

12 Dec.—Kashmir. Mr Nehru told Parliament that the Hindu right-wing Praja Parishad party in Kashmir had started anti-social and subversive disorders on 24 November and the police, who had been reinforced by a contingent from East Punjab, had had to open fire but had caused no casualties. More than 400 persons had been arrested. He said the Praja Parishad wanted complete accession to India under the Indian flag, or, failing that, self-determination for Jammu alone. He charged its leaders with playing into the hands of Pakistan extremists and said that, in view of the agreement between Kashmir and India, the agitation was aimed as much against the Indian Government and Parliament as against the Kashmir Government. Praja Parishad leaders had been in touch with right-wing Hindu organizations in India and were seeking to enrol volunteers in India for their campaign.

16 Dec.—Madras Disorders. Disorders took place at Anaka Palli in Madras State, following the death of Potti Sriramulu after a 58-day fast to further the cause of a separate State for Telugu-speaking people. Two people were killed and seven injured when police fired on the crowd.

INDO-CHINA. 4 Dec.—A French communiqué reported fierce fighting fifty miles south-east of Hanoi as a result of a French diversionary attack to relieve the pressure on Na-Sam.

7 Dec.—After a bombing and artillery attack rebels withdrew from the post of Yen-Cuha, about six miles south-east of Ninh-Binh, which they had captured on 5 December. They left 200 dead, bringing total Viet-Minh casualties in five days' fighting in the area to about 600.

8 Dec.—French reconnaissance units made a sortie from Na-Sam and advanced about eight miles into enemy territory. They met little resistance.

The New China News Agency quoted a Viet-Minh report that Dien Bien Phu in the west of the Thai country had been evacuated by the French and occupied by Viet-Minh forces.

16 Dec.—The rebels captured the post of Daloc, half-way between Hanoi and Haiphong, in the Red River delta.

17 Dec.—The withdrawal south to Tshin-Ho of the French garrison at Phu-Tho, about forty miles north of Laichau, was reported. It was officially stated that the withdrawal was not the result of enemy pressure but was designed to avoid capture.

ISRAEL. 8 Dec.—Presidency. Mr Itzhak Ben-Zvi, the Mapai (Labour Party) candidate was elected second President of Israel. He secured a majority in the third ballot after Mapam had transferred their votes to him.

9 Dec.—Poland. It was announced that Poland had demanded the recall of the Israeli Minister in Warsaw who was also Minister in Prague.

10 Dec.—The new President took the oath. No representatives of the Soviet bloc attended the ceremony. In his speech Mr Ben Zvi said that the gathering-in of exiles was still the State's major purpose.

16 Dec.—Parties' Agreement. The central committee of Mapai (Labour Party) and the executive of the right-wing General Zionists agreed to co-operate in a new Government coalition.

ITALY. 4 Dec.—Electoral Reform. Fighting between left-wing and Government supporters broke out in the Chamber after the adoption of a proposal that the Chamber should sit every day until the electoral reform Bill had been passed.

14 Dec.—Local Elections. Elections were held in those communes of northern Italy where no elections had been held in May. The results showed that almost everywhere the Christian Democrats had either maintained or improved their position.

JAPAN. 9 Dec.—War Criminals. The House of Representatives passed a resolution asking the Government to take prompt measures to secure the release of war criminals detained in Japan as a step towards the 'rescue' of those detained in Australia and the Philippines.

KASHMIR. 11 Dec.—It was learnt that several arrests had been made as a result of a widespread rising against the Government, organized by the right-wing Praja Parishad Party. The president of the party, Pandit Premnath Dogra, had been sentenced to imprisonment and

Kashmir (*continued*)

fined. The Government had refused a request from opposition parties in India to send a parliamentary delegation to investigate the trouble.

12 Dec.—Mr Nehru's statement (*see India*).

14 Dec.—Further demonstrations by supporters of the Praja Parishad led to police firing on the mob. The Government ordered a judicial investigation into the incident.

KOREA. 4 Dec.—South Korean troops repulsed three enemy attacks on Sniper Ridge.

5 Dec.—Gen. Eisenhower ended a three-day visit to Korea during which he saw front-line units and conferred with President Rhee. He was accompanied by Gen. Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

A heavy bombing attack was made on the Communist supply base at Cholsan, thirty miles south-east of Antung.

9 Dec.—**Prisoners.** The U.N. Command announced that a North Korean prisoner who was attempting to escape from the Koje Island camp had been killed and another who had defied an order had been seriously wounded.

Heavy bombing attacks were made on the railway centres of Hanyung, Nagin, Musin, and Hyesanjin and on other industrial and military targets along the Manchurian border in north-east Korea.

11 Dec.—Strong Chinese attacks drove South Korean forces off a hill position (Little Nori) on the western front.

12 Dec.—The South Koreans retook, but later lost, Big Nori and Little Nori hills.

Peking Radio claimed that U.S. aircraft had bombed the city of Tatungkow over the Manchurian border on 6 December and had also bombed a Manchurian village on 28 November.

13 Dec.—South Korean forces recaptured Little Nori. U.N. bombers raided a Communist military centre at Uiju on the Yalu river.

14 Dec.—The U.N. Command announced that two relatives of North Korean deserters—a twenty-five-year-old girl and a fifty-year-old man—had been executed by the Communists in the presence of about 100 men belonging to units of the deserters' division.

Prison Riot. In a riot at Pongam Island prison camp eighty-two Korean civilian internees were killed and 120 wounded (five of whom died later) when U.S. and South Korean guards fired on the internees who were refusing to obey orders and threatening a mass breakout. Two Americans and two South Koreans were injured by stones.

15 Dec.—South Koreans repulsed a Chinese attack on Pinpoint Hill in the central sector.

16 Dec.—The Communist armistice delegation presented to U.N. liaison officers a protest against the 'barbarous massacre' at Pongam.

Col. Miller, the U.S. commander of the camp, said that in dealing with the Pongam riot guards had used first shot guns, then rifles, and finally machine-guns. He said that on 15 December two internees who

had refused to join the uprising had been attacked by other internees, one man being severely beaten and the other having one eye gouged out and the hearing of one ear destroyed.

17 Dec.—South Korean troops repulsed four small attacks on Sniper Ridge on the central front.

U.N. bombers attacked two areas on the Haeju peninsular.

MALAYA. 4 Dec.—Statement by Gen. Templer (*see Great Britain*).

MOROCCO. 7 Dec.—Two explosions occurred in Casablanca causing substantial damage and injuring three persons.

Riots. A mass meeting of the Moroccan section of the C.G.T. was held in Casablanca to decide on a general strike in sympathy with the Tunisian U.G.T.T. Later, anti-European rioting started with an attack on a police station.

8 Dec.—Rioting continued in Casablanca, mainly in the *Carrières Centrale* district. Casualties in the two days' rioting were stated to be: seven Europeans killed and two missing and about fifty Moroccans dead and about seventy injured. Over 500 persons were arrested, including six union and ten nationalist leaders. A curfew was imposed and public meetings forbidden. Four nationalist newspapers were suspended.

9 Dec.—Three persons were killed and ten injured in a riot at Beni-Mellal, twenty miles south of Kasba Tadla. Several arrests were made.

The Nationalist Istiqlal Party issued a statement declaring that the riots were the result of police provocation and denying charges of collusion between the Istiqlal and Communist parties.

10 Dec.—The Sultan issued a statement deploring the riots.

The executives of the Communist and Istiqlal parties were arrested by order of the Resident-General, and the two parties were declared illegal. The Communists were expelled from Morocco by air.

11 Dec.—The French Residency announced that the inquiry opened after the riots had established beyond doubt collusion between several extremist parties.

A call for a three-day strike was made to shopkeepers in Casablanca, Rabat, and Fez, as a protest against the arrests.

Demonstrations near Rabat were dispersed by the police, about 100 arrests being made. Another ten members of the Istiqlal were detained, bringing the total to thirty-six.

12 Dec.—A further wave of about 500 arrests was reported. Sentences of one year's imprisonment were passed on 167 of those arrested at Rabat.

13 Dec.—Arrests of nationalists continued. The court of the Pasha at Casablanca sentenced 122 rioters to prison terms of up to two years. The Pasha, together with his Caliphas and 200 Moroccan notables, called on the head of the French civil authorities to express his thanks to the French for preserving order in the town.

14 Dec.—Eight persons, including three Soviet citizens, were expelled from the country.

Morocco (continued)

15 Dec.—Further arrests were made of members of the Istiqlal and Communist parties.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. 11 Dec.—Speaking at the American Club in Paris, Gen. Ridgway, Supreme Commander in Europe, said that N.A.T.O. had not yet obtained the minimum defensive force necessary to protect the alliance and make it strong enough to negotiate in peace and not in war. He called for a sustained effort from all members.

15 Dec.—**North Atlantic Council.** A meeting of the Council opened in Paris.

Signor de Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, spoke of the Communist policy of penetration and erosion which had been extolled by Marshal Stalin at the Soviet Party Congress, and he urged that N.A.T.O. should become a centre for exchanging and co-ordinating information and measures to counter this policy.

The report of Lord Ismay, Secretary-General, was adopted without debate. A report of the military committee recorded considerable progress in almost all fields but said that progress in standardization of arms and equipment was slow, though agreements covering sixty-two items had been promulgated and a further 124 agreements were being prepared.

16 Dec.—**Mediterranean Command.** The Atlantic Council announced its decision to establish a Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, initially a British officer (Admiral Lord Mountbatten), who would be directly responsible to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe. He would be responsible in time of war for the security of sea communications, the protection of shipping and convoys, the co-ordination of logistic support, and the support of adjacent commands. His command would include air as well as naval units.

Units of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which was primarily organized for the support of land campaigns in southern Europe, would remain under the command of the C.-in-C., South (Admiral Carney). The Mediterranean would be sub-divided into a number of areas including the French and Italian areas in the western and central Mediterranean. The commanders of these areas would be responsible to C.-in-C. Mediterranean for all allied tasks but to their national authorities for national functions. National coastal areas would be a national responsibility.

17 Dec.—**Indo-China.** The Atlantic Council passed a resolution expressing wholehearted admiration for the French struggle in Indo-China which it declared deserved continuing support from N.A.T.O. Governments.

E.D.C. The Council also passed a resolution emphasizing the importance attached by the Atlantic community to ratification of the European Defence Community and of the protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty containing guarantees by N.A.T.O. Powers to members of the E.D.C.

In a speech to the Council Mr Eden, British Foreign Secretary, observed that the Soviet Government had not yet answered the western Note of 23 September in which an offer had been made, subject to suitable conditions, to hold elections in Germany, and he declared that the offer still held good. He said the Russian zone of Germany was being rapidly Sovietized, armed forces were being built up, and the zone would in future contribute increasingly to the military and economic strength of Russia. He welcomed the Federal German Government's resolve to press on with ratification of the Bonn and E.D.C. treaties, and reaffirmed that the policy of Britain, France and the United States was to foster the partnership of Germany with the free world and to work for the creation of a free and unified Germany. The U.S. and French delegates associated themselves with the declaration.

ORGANIZATION FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 10 Dec.—Import Restrictions. The Council published recommendations urging Britain and France to relax import restrictions affecting other members of the E.P.U. so as to enable other countries to maintain trade liberalization measures they had adopted. Britain was also asked to consider how her import regulations could be adapted to reduce damage to French and Italian economic interests, and France was asked to do the same for Italian interests. Other members were asked to consider measures to mitigate the consequences for Italy of British and French restrictions and the damage to France of British restrictions. Governments were asked to reply by 10 January.

12 Dec.—The Council of Ministers adopted unanimously the fourth annual report which had been drawn up by international experts and accepted by the U.S. and Canadian Governments as well as by member Governments.

The report attributed the decline in European economy primarily to the basic dollar disequilibrium which, it said, was setting up a vicious circle by compelling European countries to impose restrictions which limited production and hampered trade liberalization. It recommended the United States: (a) to take a larger volume of goods and services—to substitute trade for aid; (b) to increase investments abroad, particularly in underdeveloped countries, so as to restore triangular trade by enabling those countries to buy, with the dollars lent them, goods and services from Europe which would then be able to pay for imports from America; (c) to prevent fluctuations in its internal economy. The report urged west European countries to make greater efforts to maintain internal financial stability, in some cases by fundamental financial and fiscal reform, and in others (especially France) by adjusting the internal level of prices and costs to the world market. It also recommended that production should be directed to branches most profitable for export or essential internal needs and said this could be achieved partly by higher productivity and also by tax incentives. European countries were also urged to develop a common market in order to promote competition and lower costs.

The report called for a more flexible economy in Britain and criti-

Organization for European Economic Co-operation (*continued*)
cized British restrictive and protective measures designed to ensure domestic equilibrium.

13 Dec.—Anglo-Icelandic Fishery Dispute. The Icelandic delegate raised the question of the dispute, pointing out that Iceland's economy had been seriously affected by the British trawlermen's refusal to allow Icelandic fish to be landed in Britain.

PAKISTAN. 14 Dec.—North-West Frontier. The Ministry of States and Frontier Regions announced that, in response to an appeal for help from the inhabitants, air action had been taken on 9 and 12 December against followers of Wali Khan, a former *malik* of the Afridis whose allowance had been stopped by the Government and who had organized a hostile demonstration on the north-west frontier with the aim of interfering with communications in the Khyber and Kohat passes. Some casualties had been inflicted and the house of Wali Khan destroyed. The inhabitants had resisted Wali Khan's men suffering and inflicting a number of casualties.

PERSIA. 12 Dec.—Persian Ambassador's statement (*see United States*).

14 Dec.—The deputy Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister presented to the Majlis a report by Dr Moussadek on measures taken under the plenary powers accorded him in August. The report claimed that the measures had averted a major financial crisis and referred to the 'enormous' difficulties in implementing them owing to the opposition of those whose interests were endangered and to foreign intrigues.

Oil Dispute. Mr Makki, secretary of the National Front, gave the Majlis a report on his discussions in America with the International Bank. He said the Bank officials had refused to enter into negotiations without British consent, and he had therefore withheld new proposals to solve the oil dispute framed by Dr Moussadek. He strongly criticized the U.S. Democratic Administration for supporting Britain in her policy of 'pressure'.

POLAND. 5 Dec.—Withdrawal from Unesco (*see United Nations*).

9 Dec.—Demand for recall of Israeli Minister (*see Israel*).

Break-off of trade negotiations with Austria (*see Austria*).

PORTUGAL. 17 Dec.—Conspiracy Trial. Two officers accused of attempting a revolutionary conspiracy in January were sentenced respectively to three years' and two years' imprisonment or alternatively four and a half years and three years in exile. Six other officers were acquitted.

RED CROSS CONFERENCE. 15 Dec.—At a meeting in Geneva of the executive committee of the League of Red Cross Societies, the chairman, Hr Sandström, of the Swedish Red Cross, was upheld by the committee when he ruled out of order a Soviet and a Chinese resolution on the ground that they had already been passed at the Red

Cross Conference in Toronto. The Soviet resolution appealed to all Red Cross societies to urge their Governments to ratify the Geneva protocol of 1925 on the use of bacteriological weapons, and the Chinese resolution asked the Red Cross societies to make more effort towards famine relief, especially in south-east Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa. The committee rejected a Chinese resolution declaring that the Geneva convention had been violated in Korea by inhuman methods, such as massacre and maltreatment, which had been adopted to force prisoners to refuse repatriation.

SOUTH AFRICA. 8 Dec.—Resistance Campaign. Seven Europeans were arrested in Johannesburg for holding a meeting of Africans in defiance of an order.

9 Dec.—Another four whites were arrested in Cape Town for contravening *apartheid* regulations.

10 Dec.—Report on British Protectorates (*see Great Britain*).

Presiding as Chancellor at a graduation ceremony at Stellenbosch University, Dr Malan condemned the policy of those universities which admitted non-Europeans, declaring it to be contrary to the country's general policy. He maintained that European universities should be all-white and that independent institutions should be provided for non-Europeans.

11 Dec.—The Minister of Justice prohibited Mr Mandela, president of the Transvaal branch of the African National Congress, from attending any gathering in the Johannesburg magisterial district for six months or from living in any other district during the period.

12 Dec.—The Appeal Court dismissed an appeal by Emil S. Sachs against his sentence of six months' imprisonment under the Suppression of Communism Act, but suspended the sentence for three years.

13 Dec.—Swiss Loan. The Finance Minister, Mr Havenga, announced the Government's acceptance of a Swiss loan of 30 m. Swiss francs (£2.5 m.).

SUDAN. 11 Dec.—A joint meeting of the leaders of the Umma, Socialist Republican, and National Unionist parties declined an invitation from Gen. Nagib to send representatives to Cairo to discuss the results of the Anglo-Egyptian talks and asked instead that Gen. Nagib should send a representative to Khartoum.

15 Dec.—The Government suspended for six months the bi-weekly pro-Communist newspaper, *Sahara*.

SYRIA. 5 Dec.—Refugees. Col Chichekli, the deputy Premier, announced that the Government would co-operate with the U.N. Relief and Works Agency to improve the conditions of Arab refugees in Syria. He said the Government would never agree to a solution of the Palestine problem which did not provide for the return of the refugees to their homes and for compensation for their losses of property.

11 Dec.—Col. Chichekli in Cairo (*see Egypt*).

TIBET. 4 Dec.—Reports reaching Hong Kong said that the Chinese authorities had started a purge of anti-Communists in Tibet and that Soan Wang, the acting commander of the Tibetan Army at Lhasa, had been arrested.

TRIESTE FREE TERRITORY. 8 Dec.—Elections. The Yugoslav Military Government announced that, in the previous day's administrative elections in Zone B, 97 per cent of the electorate had voted and 1.2 per cent of the votes had been invalid. (Only Popular Front candidates had been allowed to stand.)

TUNISIA. 5 Dec.—Mr Fehrat Hached, Secretary-General of the General Union of Tunisian Workers (U.G.T.T.) and a prominent nationalist leader, was found murdered near Tunis. The U.G.T.T. called a three-day general strike in protest. The French authorities imposed a curfew in Tunis.

6 Dec.—The French authorities arrested about twelve nationalist and union leaders, including Mahmoud Messadi, who had been appointed to succeed Fehrat Hached as secretary-general of the U.G.T.T., and Maître Zouhir, secretary to the 'Estates General' of forty Tunisians who had advised the Bey on the French reforms.

A bomb exploded in Tunis on the verandah of Abdel Khader Ben Khodja, a pro-French Tunisian serving with the French delegation to the United Nations.

The Resident-General issued a statement condemning the assassination of Fehrat Hached.

7 Dec.—Incidents in Tunis caused injuries to four persons.

8 Dec.—Three men were executed who had been sentenced in June by a military tribunal for the murder of a French gendarme.

Two ringleaders in a terrorist attack were sentenced to death by a military tribunal.

9 Dec.—Terrorists fired on a railcar between Tunis and Sousse, killing one passenger and wounding two others. The curfew was reimposed in Sousse but lifted in Tunis.

10 Dec.—M. de Hautecloque, the Resident-General, had an audience with the Bey during which he asked for the removal from the Court of Prince Chedly, the heir to the throne.

A goods train was fired on between Gafsa and Sfax, and a bomb exploded in Tunis.

11 Dec.—Another bomb exploded in Tunis, and a bus was attacked south of Mareth.

13 Dec.—The military court of Tunis pronounced sentences on eight Tunisians concerned in the terrorist attack on a Gafsa police station. Three were sentenced to death, four to hard labour for life, and one to twenty years' hard labour.

Fighting at Kef-Touareg, in southern Tunisia, between troops and desert thieves, *fellaghas*, led to the death of one soldier and two *fellaghas*. One gendarme was seriously wounded.

15 Dec.—The Resident-General had another audience with the

Bey during which he presented for the Bey's signature about sixty decrees, some of which had been pending for about two years. They included two of the seven decrees to implement the proposed French reforms which were rejected by the Bey in September. The two were those establishing elected rural and municipal councils.

16 Dec.—M. de Hautecloque left for Paris, having failed to secure the Bey's signature to the decrees which he declared the Bey had promised him.

After his departure the Bey sent to the Residency a reply to the French proposal of 26 November for a resumption of negotiations. He was understood to have chosen that these should be undertaken by a mixed committee, and also to have asked that Ministerial appointments should be given to certain of his advisers.

17 Dec.—The Bey informed the Residency of his refusal to sign the decrees presented to him on 15 December.

UNITED NATIONS

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Poland. The Polish Ambassador informed the Secretary-General of Unesco by letter of Poland's withdrawal from the organization. He criticized the admission of Spain and asserted that Unesco had become an 'obedient instrument of the American cold war'.

General Assembly

5 Dec.—Korea. The President of the Assembly, Mr Lester Pearson, cabled the text of the Indian proposals for a Korean armistice to the Peking Government and the North Korean authorities, and added a personal appeal for their urgent consideration.

South African Racial Policy. The Assembly endorsed by 35 votes to 1, with 23 abstentions, the proposals adopted in the Political Committee for a three-Power commission of inquiry. The South African delegate announced that his Government would not recognize the commission as it regarded the resolution as void.

The Assembly also endorsed the Swedish draft (*see p. 697*).

10 Dec.—Colonial Territories. After strong British opposition had been voiced by Mr Selwyn Lloyd, the Assembly rejected by 18 votes to 11, with 30 abstentions, a motion passed by the Trusteeship Committee on 8 November, extending the term of the 'committee on information from non-self-governing territories' for another three years and stipulating that thereafter it would function automatically. Mr Lloyd said that the committee was neither necessary nor lawfully constituted, and Britain and other administering Powers had only taken part in its work, as a gesture of good will, so long as it was on a temporary basis. His Government was prepared, in a spirit of compromise, to serve on the committee for a further three years but not for any longer. He pointed out that at the end of that period revision of the Charter would have been considered and said that then would be the time to raise the creation of new permanent organs.

Six other resolutions concerning information on colonial territories

United Nations (continued)

were endorsed by the Assembly, including one proposing that representatives of local populations should be associated with the committee's work.

General Assembly—Political Committee

4 Dec.—Tunisia. The French delegation was absent when the debate opened on the Asian-Arab draft calling for a three-Power commission of good offices to assist France in the resumption of negotiations with 'true representatives' of the Tunisian people to secure their 'right of self-determination' and the fulfilment of their 'national aspirations'. The draft described the Tunisian situation as a threat to world peace and called on France to establish normal conditions and civil liberties in the territory.

Sir Zafrullah Khan (Pakistan) declared that France, from having undertaken protection of Tunisia under the treaty, had assumed full control, and was sacrificing the interests of Tunisians to those of French settlers and preventing the Bey from laying democratic foundations. He asked the United Nations to seek to harmonize French actions and Tunisian aspirations for the restoration of full sovereignty on a basis of mutual friendship and co-operation.

6 Dec.—Mr Selwyn Lloyd (U.K.) maintained that the United Nations was not competent to discuss the Tunisian dispute, that such discussions, by undermining an important provision of the Charter, imperilled attempts to build an international society based on the rule of law, and that they also encouraged and promoted unrest and violence.

8 Dec.—Tunisia. Latin American Draft. Eleven Latin-American States tabled a compromise resolution urging France and Tunisia to continue 'urgent' negotiations to bring about Tunisian self-government and to refrain from acts likely to aggravate tension.

Dr Jessup (United States) strongly supported the Latin-American draft. He said the United States continued to recognize the Franco-Tunisian treaty relationship and supported its evolutionary development. It was not for the Assembly to take sides but to exercise its rightful function of 'accommodation' in assisting the parties to an agreement. The United States believed France to be sincere when she declared that her goal was Tunisian independence.

10 Dec.—The Committee rejected by 26 votes to 24, with 7 abstentions, a Pakistan motion that the Bey should be invited to state his views in the debate, either personally or through a representative. Another proposal included in the motion, that an appeal should be addressed to the French Government to resume its seat in the Committee, was first accepted when voted on separately, but rejected by 21 to 2 after the defeat of the other half of the draft.

11 Dec.—Israeli-Arab Dispute. In spite of the opposition of the Arab States, the draft calling for direct negotiations between the two parties (*see p. 723*) was approved in the *ad hoc* committee by 32 votes to 13 with 13 abstentions. Several Asian States joined the Arab States in opposing. In an attempt to meet the Arab position (that direct talks

would only be acceptable on the basis of previous resolutions calling, *inter alia*, for the repatriation of refugees and the internationalization of Jerusalem), the draft in its final form called for negotiations 'bearing in mind the resolutions as well as the principal objectives of the United Nations, including the religious interests of both parties'. Both the British and U.S. delegates assured the Arab States that they were not being asked in any way to abandon any claims or rights they had under previous resolutions.

12 Dec.—Tunisia. The committee rejected the Asian-Arab draft by 27 votes to 24, with 7 abstentions, and accepted the Latin-American draft by 45 votes to 3, with 10 abstentions. An Indian amendment to the latter draft requesting the president to keep the negotiations under observation and render assistance at his discretion was defeated.

Ad Hoc Committee. Eritrea. The committee adopted unanimously, with only the five Soviet States abstaining, the reports of the British Government, as administering authority, and of the U.N. Commissioner, Dr Matienzo, on the completion of the federation of Eritrea with Ethiopia. Sir Gladwyn Jebb (U.K.) told the committee that a local administration had been established that was 96 per cent Eritrean, containing only 350 foreign officials, of whom twenty-seven were British and the rest mainly Italian. In the Eritrean Assembly there was an even balance between Christians and Muslims. The new State had been left with a balanced budget.

13 Dec.—Morocco. M. Mikaoui (Lebanon), who opened the debate on Morocco, sought to refute French arguments that the Assembly was not competent to deal with the dispute by contending that the Bey's sovereignty had been guaranteed by international agreement in the Act of Algeciras of 1906. M. Mostafa (Egypt) said that France had abused her rights as a protecting Power and had taken over many parts of the economy and linked them with the French economy. He contrasted the facilities available to the French settlers with those provided for the Moroccans and criticized the failure to establish a parliamentary regime. The French delegation boycotted the debate.

15 Dec.—Ad Hoc Committee. Admission of New Members. Sir Gladwyn Jebb (U.K.) said his Government opposed the Russian 'one-packet' proposal to admit fourteen States *en bloc* to the United Nations on the ground that any plan which made admission of candidates conditional on acceptance of others was contrary to the Charter and to the opinion of the International Court. He supported Mr Vyshinsky's contention that the right of veto was applicable to applications for admission but declared that the right had been grossly abused by the Soviet Union. He opposed a Latin-American proposal to leave the decision on admissions to the Assembly.

Morocco. Mr Selwyn Lloyd (U.K.) maintained that the Assembly was not competent to discuss the dispute, declaring that Franco-Moroccan relations were governed by a valid protectorate treaty under which the conduct of foreign affairs was entrusted to France. He denied that it was an international dispute or that there was a threat to international peace.

General Assembly—Political Committee (*continued*)

16 Dec.—Dr Jessup (U.S.A.) pointed out the difference between the Moroccan and Tunisian cases, emphasizing that the intricate racial problem in Morocco made a just system of self-government more difficult to achieve, and pointing out that the treaty of Fez granted the French in Morocco wider powers than did the treaties of Bardo and Marsa in Tunisia. He expressed full confidence in the genuineness of French pledges.

The Russian delegate asserted that Morocco had been turned into an American 'aircraft carrier' and a 'rear area in case of retreat'.

17 Dec.—The committee approved by 40 votes to 5 with 11 abstentions a Latin-American draft expressing confidence that the French Government, in pursuance of its proclaimed policy, would endeavour to further the fundamental liberties of the Moroccan people, and appealing to France and Morocco to negotiate urgently to bring about self-government. The United States voted against the draft.

An Asian-Arab draft calling for direct talks between France and the Sultan was rejected by 27 votes to 25 with 3 abstentions.

Austria. Russia and the Soviet States refused to take part in a debate on a resolution sponsored by Brazil, the Lebanon, Mexico, and the Netherlands calling on the Great Powers to fulfil their obligations to Austria. Mr Gromyko (U.S.S.R.) said that the western Powers had refused a Soviet request for a four-Power inspection in all Austrian zones in implementation of demilitarization and denazification provisions. Instead, they had suggested a 'short text' for a treaty which, he asserted, violated all previous undertakings.

Dr Grüber, Austrian Foreign Minister, who had been invited to attend the committee's proceedings, spoke of the occupation as 'eight years of bondage', and referred to the 'revolting' burdens which its costs imposed on Austria.

Mr Lloyd (U.K.) traced the course of negotiations between the western Powers and Russia and pointed to the long series of concessions made on the western side. He said that only Russian dissent prevented the conclusion of a treaty.

Secretariat

10 Dec.—U.S. statement on dismissals (*see United States*).

Security Council

8 Dec.—**Kashmir.** Mrs Pandit (India) rejected the Anglo-American draft calling for immediate Indo-Pakistan negotiations in New York on the number of troops to be retained after the main troop withdrawals and proposing a figure of between 12,000 and 18,000 on the Indian side and between 3,000 and 6,000 on the Pakistan side. She said that the internal security of the State called for a minimum of 28,000 troops, but, on the complete disbandment of the Azad Kashmir forces, her Government was prepared to reduce its forces to an irreducible minimum of 21,000 and it would agree to a civil armed force in Azad Kashmir of 4,000 men under the local authorities. She declared that any

consideration of the Kashmir problem must proceed on unequivocal recognition of the authority of the Jammu and Kashmir Government over the entire State's territory which meant the exclusion of all Pakistan armed forces and authority from the Pakistan side of the cease-fire line.

16 Dec.—Sir Zafrullah Khan (Pakistan) said he would accept the Indian offer, made by Mrs Pandit, to reduce its forces to 28,000 men, without armour or artillery, on the assumption that Azad Kashmir forces could be left intact on the Pakistan side of the cease-fire line.

UNITED STATES. 4 Dec.—**Wage Stabilization Board.** Mr Cox, chairman of the Board, resigned in protest against President Truman's approval of a wage contract between miners and employers against the Board's advice.

6 Dec.—All seven industry members of the Wage Stabilization Board also resigned in protest.

German Treaties. President Truman issues a statement urging prompt ratification of the treaties and declaring that any long delay would entail serious consequences to the defence of the free world. He expressed satisfaction at the *Bundestag's* approval to date.

Persian Oil. The State Department announced that the purchase of Persian oil was a question to be decided by individuals or firms and that any legal risks involved would have to be resolved by the individuals or firms concerned. The statement expressed the view that small shipments 'with the attendant legal complexities' could be harmful to a general settlement of the major dispute, and it said that the State Department would continue its efforts to secure a settlement 'so that the essential international principle of adequate compensation may be given effect' and Iran again benefit from large-scale oil production.

8 Dec.—**Eisenhower Conference.** On his return by cruiser from Korea, Gen. Eisenhower was joined at Wake Island by three members-designate of his Cabinet: Mr John Foster Dulles, Governor McKay, and Mr Humphrey. Two other Ministers-designate, Mr Wilson and Mr Brownell, were already on board. It was announced that discussions would centre on Korea.

Mr Wilson, the Secretary-Designate of Defence, and Admiral Radford, C.-in-C. of the Pacific Fleet, arrived in Pearl Harbour from Wake Island for military talks with Gen. Bradley, head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and others.

10 Dec.—**U.N. Dismissals.** Mr Hickerson, the State Department official in charge of U.N. affairs, announced that the State Department had made 'adverse' reports on forty Americans in the U.N. secretariat and that all but fourteen had been dismissed.

11 Dec.—**Screening of Ships' Crews.** A State Department spokesman disclosed that Britain, France, Norway, Sweden, and Holland had protested against those provisions of the McCarran-Walters immigration law, due to come into force on 24 December, which required the screening of all seamen entering U.S. ports. They had objected that screening would prolong the ship's turn-round time.

Senate. It was announced that Senator Bridges would continue to be

United States (continued)

Republican floor leader in the Senate and that Senator Taft would continue as chairman of the policy committee.

12 Dec.—Persian Oil. The Persian Ambassador issued a statement urging American firms to ship oil from Persia. He asserted that no real legal risks were involved and that the State Department's statement of 6 December showed that America no longer discouraged shipments.

13 Dec.—U.N. Dismissals. The State Department announced that Nikolai Skvortsov, a Russian employee of the United Nations, had been dismissed at the request of the State Department.

14 Dec.—Gen. Eisenhower arrived back from his trip to Korea. He expressed confidence that a satisfactory solution of the Korean problem could be reached.

15 Dec.—Korea. The Government expressed deep concern at the Chinese rejection of the Indian proposals and declared that the responsibility for peace in Korea now lay clearly with the Peking and North Korean authorities. There could be no compromise on the principle of no forcible repatriation, but, given acceptance of this principle, there were many alternatives for settling the question of prisoners. Until then the U.S. Government saw no useful purpose in having the United Nations propose further plans to the Communists.

Anglo-U.S. defence production contract (*see Great Britain*).

Oil Cartel Inquiry. A Federal Court judge ruled that the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company was 'indistinguishable' from the British Government and therefore had 'sovereign immunity' in the Government's investigation of international oil-trade agreements.

16 Dec.—Defence Programme. President Truman said in an address to the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington that though defence production was seven times greater than it was in June 1950 it had not expanded as rapidly as had been hoped. Nevertheless the programme did not even approach the limit of what the United States could do if it wanted.

Oil Cartel Inquiry. The Federal District Court postponed the inquiry until 16 March to give Gen. Eisenhower's administration time to consider whether it wanted to continue the suit.

17 Dec.—Economic Aid. A presidential fact-finding mission, headed by the Secretary for Commerce, suggested the tapering-off of economic aid to Europe and recommended the extension of G.A.T.T. after June (the date of its expiry). It also recommended increased funds for the off-shore procurement programme and serious consideration that European countries should themselves decide how the off-shore funds were spent. While admitting the necessity for protection of the U.S. economy against unfair competition, the mission declared that aid could not be replaced by trade while every American product was protected by tariffs.

WORLD PEACE CONGRESS. **12 Dec.**—A Communist-sponsored 'peace congress' opened in Vienna, attended by about 2,000 delegates from seventy-two countries,

YUGOSLAVIA. 16 Dec.—Church and State. In a letter to the Belgrade Press the Patriarch Vikentije criticized as untimely a recent statement by the Archbishop of Canterbury on relations between the Orthodox Church and the Yugoslav State. The Patriarch declared that these relations were being constantly and gradually improved and that the full attendances in churches proved that religion was free. He admitted that there might be differences with local authorities in the country, but mentioned that the State had given grants to the Church and provided social insurance for priests, and he said that all rumours of disturbances and persecution of religious life were unfounded.

Marshal Tito declared in a speech at Smederevska Palanka that the campaign, which he alleged had been launched by the Vatican in Britain, need not disturb Anglo-Yugoslav relations, but he would refrain from going to Britain if he knew that 50 per cent of the British population opposed the visit.

17 Dec.—Rupture with the Vatican. The Government announced in a Note to the Vatican the breaking-off of diplomatic relations. The Note accused the Holy See of seeking to undermine Yugoslav internal unity, alleging that proof of this was to be seen in the award of a high Church honour to a Yugoslav citizen (Archbishop Stepinacs) who had been condemned for treason by a large majority of the Yugoslav people and who was morally and in fact responsible for the bloody crimes committed during the war by the quisling authorities with whom he collaborated. It stated that this action demonstrated that the Vatican was not interested in settling differences between the Roman Catholic Church in Yugoslavia and the State, but was bent on sharpening them. It also accused the Vatican of conducting an anti-Yugoslav campaign in other countries and of disrupting every attempt by the majority of Catholic priests and the Government to solve outstanding differences. The Note regretted that the Vatican had ignored the Government's desire for improved relations expressed in its Note of November, and it said that the cause of conflict was primarily the inability or refusal of the majority of the higher clergy to conform to the constitutional principles governing the separation of Church and State and the guarantee of religious liberty. The Note added that the rupture of relations would not affect the Government's attitude 'in principle' concerning religious freedom within the framework of the constitution.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 1953
- Jan. 1 Conference on Central African Federation, London.
- " 6-13 Asian Socialist Conference, Rangoon.
- " 14 Assembly of the Council of Europe, extraordinary session.
- Feb. Egyptian General Election.
- " 22 Austrian General Election.
- Mar. 23-28 Visit of Marshal Tito to Britain.
- Apr. 26 Austrian General Election.
- May 5 World Health Organization, Sixth Assembly, Geneva.

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